

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Thomas W. DAVISON et al. Confirmation No.: 6309  
Serial No.: 10/685,761 Examiner: Vi X. Nguyen  
Filed: October 15, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3734  
Docket No.: 1291.1121109 Customer No.: 33469  
Title: CANNULA FOR RECEIVING SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

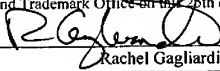
**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

MAIL STOP: ISSUE FEE  
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**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this 25th day of November 2009.

By

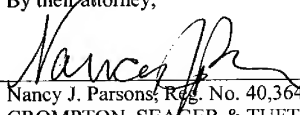
  
Rachel Gagliardi

This paper is in response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed September 3, 2009. With regard to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, while Applicants believe that the claims are allowable, Applicants do not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, or a single feature, as exactly stated by the Examiner, or as exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability. Applicants believe that there are additional reasons that the claims can be distinguished from the prior art, other than the reasons stated by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas W. Davison et al.

By their attorney,

Date: 11/25/09

  
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